

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO: 72187RCE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : GIEFER et al.
Serial No : 10/595,502
Confirm. No : 1616
Filed : April 24, 2006
For : SHIFTING DEVICE FOR...
Art Unit : 3656
Examiner : Phillip A. Johnson
Dated : September 2, 2010

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY BRIEF

In response to the Examiner's Answer of August 6, 2010 Appellant hereby replies.

35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection citing Murakami and Kim

The Examiner's Answer agrees that Murakami fails to teach and fails to suggest the combination of an adapter having a switch integrated therewith (hereinafter "switch adapter") as featured in claims 1, 15 and 21. The Examiner's Answer takes the position that the deficiency as claimed is cured by Kim since Kim teaches an adapter 41 having a switch corresponding to assembly of elements 50, 51 and 54 integrated therewith. Appellant respectfully disagrees with this position as Kim does not provide any teaching or suggestion for a switch adapter as claimed. Kim discloses a tubular shaft 41 with a rod 50 that passes through the shaft 41 that moves an actuator 51 such that the actuator 51 contacts a leaf switch